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FLCQR DEBATE

March 5, 2001

LB 227, 505

Senator Engel, did you wish to close on advancement?

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. President, we'd certainly appreciate you advancing this bill. It's very important to the state of Nebraska, especially northeast Nebraska, and for generations to come. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. The question before the body is, shall LB 505 be advanced to E & R Initial? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We are voting on advancement of LB 505. Have you all voted who care to? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 505.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The bill does advance. That completes General File special order. We are back to General File regular. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 227, a bill by Senator Thompson and others. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5, referred to the Health Committee for public hearing. Committee amendments were adopted, Mr. President, on February 28; likewise an amendment by Senator Thompson to the bill was adopted. And I do have additional amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Thompson, since it's been a few days since we were at this bill, I'll give you a couple of minutes just to kind of update us--what the bill does, where we're at, and then I'll move to the amendments.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. LB 227 is a bill that would prohibit smoking in restaurants in Nebraska. Smoking would be allowed in a restaurant bar area if the bar area is separate and, with an amendment that we added last time, would be separately ventilated. Smoking in bars is not changed. If there's a party room, it's up to the owner of the establishment to decide whether or not smoking can be allowed